



8th EBL NBO Officers' Seminar

Recognition - IOC

Micke Melander - Thursday 28th Jan 2016 @ 17.30

Sweden a "complex" country

- Traditionally most organisations are set up on a voluntary basis as non-profit organisations.
- A "normal" Swede might be member of 5-10 or more of such organisations.
- The Swedish Bridge Federation is just one of many...
- There are about 200 000 non-profit organisations in Sweden. Some are only local and others are national like the Swedish Bridge Federation with a hierarchic structure with several levels and local or national boards.



The World of Sports in Sweden

- Organisations or Federations may be a member of Riksidrottsförbundet (RF). This is a non-profit organisation, receiving financial support from the government. RF has 73 member organisations.
- RF have separated all educational work into an own organisation called SISU Idrottsutbildarna (SISU). SISU has 76 member organisations
- For the Olympic movement there are Sveriges Olympiska Komitté (SOK). SOK has 50 member organisations, 14 of those are only "recognized" since they aren't on the Olympic program.



Catch 22

- The WBF is fully recognized by the IOC. This means that SBF nationally could apply for a membership in SOK and easily get it...
- However the statutes of SOK state that to be a member of SOK you have to be a member of RF. SOK has also confirmed that we would automatically be a member if we were a member of RF...
- To be a member of RF you have to fulfil their statutes. The 3rd paragraph has the meaning; To be a sport, you either need a precision or speed moment and be organised in some kind of competition. To re-write in other words, you need to hit a target or sweat...
- However, we can apply, we can present our case and it may come up for a vote at RFs bi-annual congress.



The History

- 1995, SBF applied. SBF got the advice to withdraw because of incomplete papers. SBF withdrew.
- 1999, SBF applied again. This time to both SISU and RF. We became members of SISU. RF never came up for a vote even.
- 2001, SBF applied again for RF. Same case as 1999 after a big and costly campaign.
- 2013, SBF applied again. With a different kind of campaign only based on personal contacts and lobbying. Again not even up for a vote. But we could see a change from some and there were hope.
- 2015, SBF applied again. Same kind of campaign. The big chance was that the lobbying had resulted in three member organisations proposing that we should be a member of RF. About 30% of the congress voted for us. We needed 50...



New Campaign

- Time to try again in May 2017.
- We will survey all the MOs of the RF and their officers to see what contacts we have.
- A massive amount of lobbying will be done. Where we will be in contact with the necessary people to present and hopefully sell our case so that we will achieve more than the needed 50% in 2017 and use what we have learned from our survey.
- Together with some special material and getting closer to the MOs of the RF we hope this will be what is needed to finally be a member of the RF and then also SOK.

Why?

- ▶ First of all it's for our status as an organisation. We would automatically be written about in the sport pages in newspapers and not mixed up with obituaries.
- ▶ Second of all it's for support for our organisation. It will help us getting stronger since we will have the same special tech support that everyone else gets (if they want it).
- ▶ Third, it's money. A membership of RF would mean something like 100,000-300,000€ yearly. Without doing anything...

Successful Cases



- ▶ Yes - we are a member.



- ▶ Yes, we are a member IF...



- ▶ No, new campaign needed. Mission still not accomplished - but we are working on it!